

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

SUBJECT Production of Calcium at the Elektrochemisches Kombinat, Bitterfeld-Wolfen

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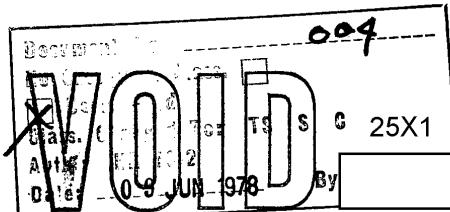
1. Two tons of raw calcium, still containing chloride and other impurities, are produced at the Elektrochemisches Kombinat, Bitterfeld, daily by the usual process. This amount is shipped directly to the USSR, but its use there is not known. In addition, the plant produces daily 2.2 tons of pure copper calcium alloy (reine Kupfer-Kalzium-Legierung), which at the end of the process contains 65% calcium. Extra-pure calcium is obtained by distillation, and the proportion in the alloy then drops to approximately 30%. The alloy thus derived is then used as cathode material in electrolytic fusion processes (Schmelz-Elektrolyse). Lalsium-Chlorid-Schmelze mit Zusatz von 20% Kalzium Chlorid; graphite or carbon is used as the anode. Thus from the 2.2 tons about .77 tons of extra-pure calcium is obtained daily. Production was begun in June 1946 and after a few months was interrupted for one year. Total production of extra-pure calcium to date can thus be estimated at about 700 tons. The production level has remained the same for about 2½ years.
2. All calcium products from Bitterfeld are shipped directly to the Soviet Union. None of the calcium is released to Russian Zone industries or for interzonal trade. Control of the production is carried out by representatives sent directly from Moscow who are completely free from any interference by the S.A. There are rumors in the plant, however, that these strict regulations may soon be modified, and that small amounts of the product will be released for the chemical industry of the Russian Zone and for interzonal trade.

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